

Commander
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Mobile

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## **MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 27-05**

## Post-storm Hurricane Katrina for Captain of the Port Mobile Area of Operations

- 1. <u>Current port and waterway status:</u>
  - a. Port of Panama City is open to all traffic with a draft of 34 feet or less.
  - b. <u>Port of Pensacola</u> is open to all traffic with a draft of 31 feet or less. NAVSTA Pensacola is open to all traffic with a draft of 37 feet or less.
  - c. Port of Mobile: The Mobile Bar and Mobile Bay are open to all traffic with a draft of 43 feet or less. The Mobile River is open to normal channel usage. Theodore Channel is open to all traffic with a draft of 37 feet or less. Arlington Channel, Garrows Bend, and Chickasaw Creek are open to normal channel usage. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.

## d. Port of Pascagoula:

- (1) Pascagoula River and Upper Sound is open to all traffic with a draft of 36 feet or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- (2) Bayou Casotte is open to all traffic with a draft of 42 feet or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- e. **Port of Gulfport** is open to all traffic with a draft of 30 feet or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- f. Gulf Intra-Coastal Waterway (GICW) is open to normal channel usage from the Inner Harbor Navigational Canal (New Orleans) to MM 350 (Aucilla River, FL). Baptiste Collete alternate route is open to vessels with a draft of 9 feet 6 inches.

- g. <u>Pearl River</u> is open to all traffic from the mouth of the Pearl River to Port Bienville and including the Port Bienville Industrial Park. Port Bienville Industrial Park is open to all vessels with a draft of 12 feet or less.
- h. <u>Bay St. Louis</u> is open to normal bay usage. The Hwy 90 bridge is inoperable, therefore vessels are restricted under the bridge to 13 feet vertical clearance. The Wolf River is open to vessels with a draft of 3 feet or less due to shoaling in the channel. The Jordan River is open to vessels with a draft of 5 feet or less due to shoaling in the channel. Bayou Portage is open to normal channel usage; however two obstructions are in the channel. The obstructions are visible and can be maneuvered around.
- i. <u>Biloxi</u>: The East Access, West Approach, Back Bay, and Benard Bayou in Biloxi are open to normal channel usage. The Lateral Channel into Biloxi is open to vessels with a draft of 9 feet or less. The Industrial Seaway is open to normal channel usage, however vessels should use caution when transiting the Industrial Seaway as sunken vessels are partially blocking the channel, but vessels can navigate around the sunken vessels. Also there are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- j. <u>Bayou La Batre</u> is open to vessels with a draft of 12 feet or less in the Sound Channel and vessels with a draft of 15 feet or less in the Bayou Channel.
- k. All waterways from the Mississippi-Louisiana state line to to Aucilla River, Fl that are not covered above are open to all traffic. Vessel should proceed with caution as aids to navigation may be off station or missing.
- 1. Current information may be obtained from the COTP Mobile Voice Mail Announcement system at phone number 251-441-5080.

2. Further questions may be addressed by contacting Sector Mobile at (251) 441-5976.

D. BOSTAD

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile

Captain of the Port (COTP)